

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-5 (canceled).

Claim 6 (new): An ultrasonic sensor comprising:

an integral housing including a plurality of tubular containers that are open at one end and closed by bottom portions at the other end and include side portions extending from the one end to the other end, and at least one connecting portion that connects the plurality of tubular containers to one another; and

piezoelectric devices disposed on respective inner bottom surfaces of the respective bottom portions of the plurality of tubular containers; wherein

in the integral housing, the side portions of the plurality of tubular containers are connected to each other by the at least one connecting portion at portions that are adjacent to the bottom portions of the plurality of tubular containers such that outer bottom surfaces of the respective bottom portions of the plurality of tubular containers are flush with each other; and

the housing further includes an elastic member that supports the housing.

Claim 7 (new): The ultrasonic sensor according to Claim 6, wherein the resonant frequency of the at least one connecting portion differs from the drive frequency of the piezoelectric devices.

Claim 8 (new): The ultrasonic sensor according to Claim 6, wherein, in each of the plurality of tubular containers, a thickness of a side portion facing toward another of the plurality of tubular containers connected by the connecting portion is greater than a thickness of a side portion that is substantially perpendicular to the side portion facing toward the another of the plurality of tubular containers.

Claim 9 (new): The ultrasonic sensor according to Claim 6, wherein the outline of the outer bottom surface of each of the plurality of tubular containers is polygonal.

Claim 10 (new): The ultrasonic sensor according to Claim 6, wherein the outer bottom surfaces of the plurality of tubular containers and an outer surface of the connecting portion are arranged to form a single flat surface.

Claim 11 (new): The ultrasonic sensor according to Claim 6, wherein the elastic member is made of rubber.

Claim 12 (new): The ultrasonic sensor according to Claim 6, wherein the at least one connecting portion is defined by a plate having uniform thickness.

Claim 13 (new): The ultrasonic sensor according to Claim 6, wherein the at least one connecting portion includes a recessed portion having a thickness that is less than a thickness of the remainder of the connecting portion.

Claim 14 (new): The ultrasonic sensor according to Claim 6, wherein each of the plurality of tubular containers includes side portions having a uniform thickness.

Claim 15 (new): The ultrasonic sensor according to Claim 6, wherein the outline of the outer bottom surface of each of the plurality of tubular containers is substantially rectangular.